

News Release

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Public advised to remain vigilant as severe weather warnings continue throughout the night

LĪHU'E – Officials continue to address multiple fallen trees and downed utility lines across the island Sunday as the High Wind and High Surf warnings remain in effect for the County of Kaua'i until Monday morning.

"While the worst of the storm may seem to be behind us, dangerous conditions are still expected to continue throughout the night," stated Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami. "We urge everyone to remain vigilant and to stay off the roadways if at all possible. Again, we extend our gratitude to those having to work in the hazardous wind and rain in order to protect the health and safety of us all."

No damages from coastal inundation have been reported at this time. However, those in areas prone to coastal flooding or erosion are still advised to remain vigilant and to have a plan in place should the need to evacuate arise.

The American Red Cross holding center at the Kīlauea Gym reported no occupants since its opening Saturday night. Therefore, the holding center will now be on standby should the need to open become necessary.

There are no highway closures at this time, however, multiple roads are reportedly closed due to fallen trees. Current road closures include portions of Menehune and Koke'e roads in Waimea, and Olohena road in Kapa'a. Crews are working as quickly as possible to clear all affected roadways.

The state Department of Education has announced that all public schools are scheduled to be open on Monday. An announcement will be made should this notice change.

The Department of Water has issued a Water Conservation Notice for all customers islandwide, until further notice, due to multiple electrical power outages affecting well sites and system functions. Customers are urged to limit water usage to essential uses only – such as cooking and bathing – to help avoid a full water outage.

Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) continues to report power outages throughout the island due to fallen trees and downed power lines. Crews are working safely and efficiently to resolve the issues as soon as possible, but restoration to some areas may take time due to the volume of calls and the continued high winds.

Solid Waste officials announced that the Līhu'e Transfer Station will be open on a modified schedule from noon to 3:15 p.m. on Monday. All other transfer stations will be open as normal from 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., weather permitting. The Kekaha Landfill and Kekaha HI5 Redemption Center remain closed until further notice, and conditions will be re-evaluated Monday morning.

The High Wind Warning remains in effect with gusts of up to 60 MPH being reported. Peak winds are expected through Sunday evening. Winds this strong can make driving hazardous, cause downed trees, power lines and flying debris. Widespread power outages should be expected.

All north and west-facing beach parks, from Kekaha to Anahola, remain closed until further notice as the High Surf Warning is in effect. Wave heights of up to 60 feet were reported today on the North Shore. The public is advised to stay out of the water and away from shorelines. Entering the water could result in significant injury or death.

For emergency preparedness tips, please visit the Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency website at www.kauai.gov/KEMA.

For updates on road conditions and closures, please call 241-1725.

If you have a power emergency, please call 246-4300 and select option 5 to speak with a representative. You can also check the KIUC website to confirm an outage in your area.

For weather updates call the National Weather Service automated weather line at 245-6001, or visit the NWS website, www.weather.gov/hawaii.

Please DO NOT call Kaua'i police 911 unless you have an emergency.



Above photo: Fallen tree on Menehune Road, in Waimea.